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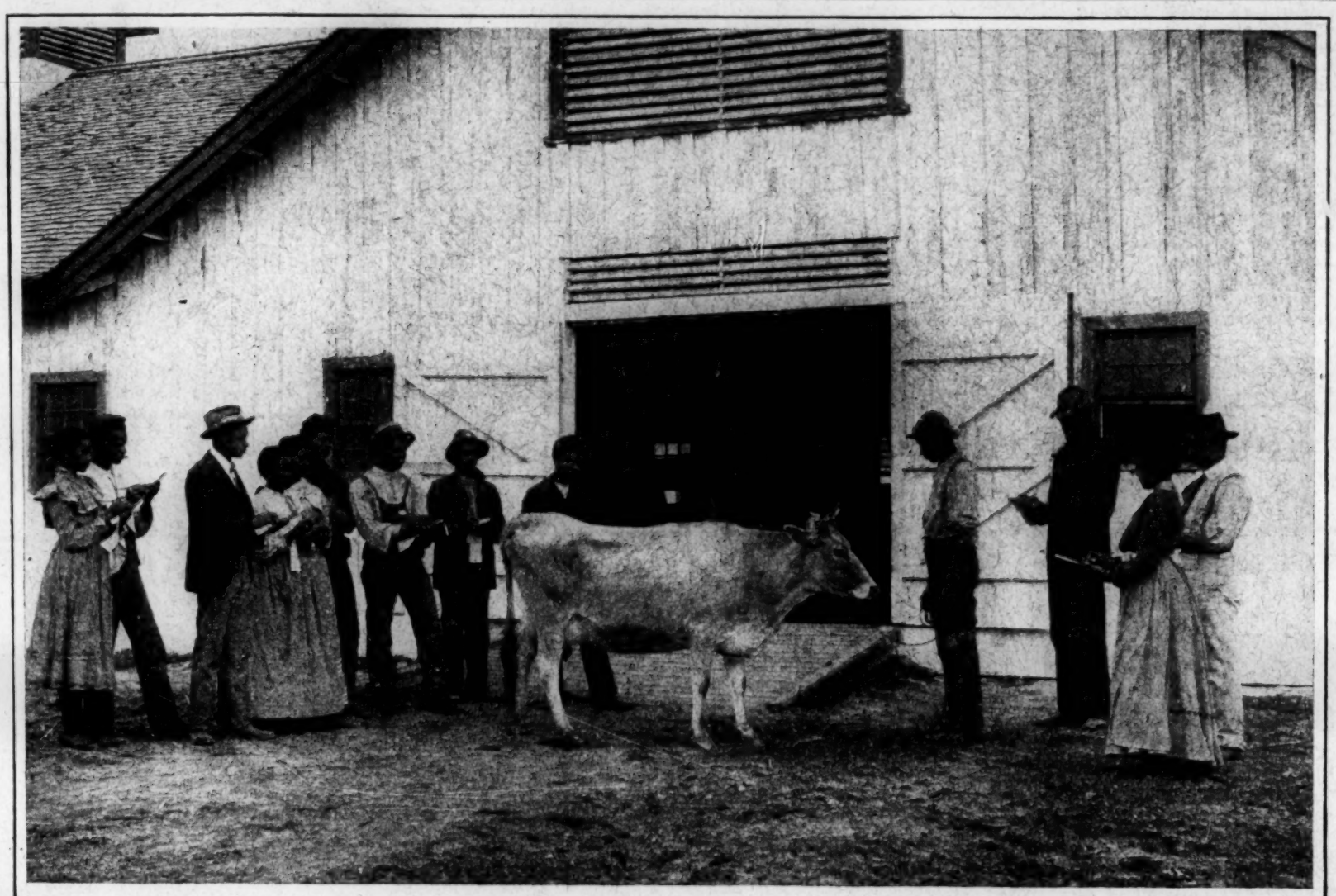
The Negro Farmer

Vol. 2, No. 19
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama
October 9, 1915



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THE NEGRO FARMER

Published Bi-Weekly in the Interest of the Home, Farm and Garden; especially devoted to the Interest of Negro Land Owners and Tenant Farmers and Those Who Employ Negro Labor. The Only Negro Farm Newspaper in the World to be Circulated Among 2,000,000 Black Farmers

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ISAAC FISHER....Editor and Business Mgr.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1915

MEMBER
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The Editor's Page

STOP THINKING BLACK—SOMETIMES

It is the universal testimony of physicians that worry weakens the resisting power of a patient's body; and that a sick person whose mind is disturbed has not near so good a chance of getting well as is true of the patient whose thoughts are cheerful and who does not brood over the condition of his health; and, hence, your wise doctor goes into the room of the sick one determined to turn his attention away from his ailment. If he does this, the medicines prescribed have a fair chance to do their work.

Some People We Know

We know some persons who never get through discussing their ailments. They take delight in describing their pains, pangs and patience; and if through any mistake, they answer your cheery "Good morning! How do you do?" by saying, "I am well," they immediately amend the statement by saying, "I am as well as I can expect to be under the circumstances," etc., etc., etc. They think in terms of illness; they speak the language of illness; they act the part of ill persons; and I hope some one will get these words to them, they are bores, nuisances and pests of society. Illness, all of us are pretty likely to be called upon to endure; and illness does depress the spirits; but no man ever hastened his recovery by thinking and talking always about the disease which racks his body.

Some Other People, Also

There are some other people who came into this world as members of its darker races, and who have never gotten through grieving about the crosses which they are called to bear in consequence of that fact. If one may use such statements they think black; they talk black; and naturally, they act black. They are thinking about this injustice, about that inequitable treatment, about that hardship, about this inconvenience, about this disadvantage, about that humiliation—all of which grow out of the fact that they are Negroes, Colored People, Afro-Americans, Colored Americans, or whatever term they are pleased to apply to themselves.

All darker races have felt the sting of oppressions and injustices; but it is pertinent to inquire whether these should be permitted to absorb all of a man's thoughts, all of his conversation, all of his efforts.

World Currents Of Thought

About us the world's currents of thought are moving. That we may not sit in that great "Parliament of Man" in which, eventually, the grievances of the world will be discussed does not prevent us from knowing that such a body is needed. That no black chancellor of State will help dictate terms of peace when Europe's fit of war-madness is over and her great nations pause to count the cost amid the desolation wrought by their own hands, does not prevent black masters of statecraft from philosophizing upon the dangers of ambition and the lust of rule.

Today, the black people who think understand the philosophy of trade-unionism better than do thousands of white persons, simply because they have had to study it and master it to understand why the Negro is excluded therefrom. Because the United States is not fair nor just in her dealings with colored people, Negroes cannot afford to ignore the grounds on which this government has decided to establish a protectorate over Hayti. The government may not be justified in her course in the matter; but Negroes, just like others, must be able to examine the case on its merits.

In short, we must think like rational beings not black beings; and if any man-made laws have borne down so heavily upon us that we must think like Negroes, those laws have hurt us indeed.

A Part Of My Creed

The problems which vex the souls of the colored people—problems which grow out of the attitude toward them of the white races—bear down as heavily upon my consciousness as upon that of other members of my race; but quite a while

ago, I decided that life is too short for me to spend all of it in unhappiness and that the world is too full of beauties and joy for me to permit any race or set of races to shut me out from my share of the happiness which should be the portion of every rational being.

And, so, while I recognize it to be my duty to protest against wrongs to my race and to work for better things, wherever my protests and labors are not vain, I purpose to have my share of the world's joys by laughing in its glee, weeping with its grief, working to ease its burdens and thinking seriously of its problems; and the State has yet to be born that can keep me from thinking of the beautiful and the true and the good, simply because I am a black man.

Freedom—Not Slavery

A half century ago, through decree of God's instrument, Abraham Lincoln, my body, though sleeping with the unborn, was declared free. Today, aye, some yesterdays ago, I declared my mind and soul free to think as I please, in terms of the white man's problems, of the red man's troubles, of the yellow and brown men's problems and of my own when I please. That the others may not permit me to "meddle," in the open, with what they call their business, has nothing to do with my free thinking.

I am a student of government although I have no voice in my own; I study diplomacy, daily, with our honored Secretary of State, although I shall never sign my name to a document of State; I am watching affairs in Mexico with as keen an interest as the President of the United States, although the outcome there will not make my government one whit more or less unjust to my race; the history that some historian will write of the great break-down of civilization in Europe, in 1914, unfolds itself just as dramatically before my eyes as if the Caucasian world would accept a history of that cataclysm which I might write; I have Hayti under examination to determine whether she measures up to the accepted standards of self-governing commonwealths, and I shall pass judgment upon her, favorable or adverse, according to the facts, just as if she were not a Negro republic and I a black man. In fine, everything that appeals to human thought appeals to me because I am human; and darkness of face does not count, when one searches for the truth. Thank God for that! Daily I rejoice because in the highest realm of liberty—that of the will and mind—I am free and no government can make me a slave.

As a result of my interest in all that concerns the world, I find great peace and happiness; and often from the vantage ground of truth which I have sought for and learned, the measures which the world has adopted to humiliate me and make me think meanly of myself seem petty and small and deserving of pity instead of anger.

Trying to Help

I have written all this in a feeble effort to help some others who are inclined to see everything from a Negro's standpoint—who think black all the time. No one can be happy with such an attitude—no one can be of service who lives in such a frame of mind.

I have not attained unto perfect happiness in a land where the keenest intellects constantly engage in the task of devising means to prevent my most perfect development and expression; but I have learned to discount most of these efforts; and each year, as I begin to face the golden sunset of life, I find myself coming into possession of the beautiful peace of God which levels all, compensates for all, covers all.

—ISAAC FISHER.

There is very little chance of making money from squabs unless through cleanliness pigeons can be kept comparatively free from disease and insect parasites. The stock should be carefully watched and any sick birds removed from the breeding pens. The house should be kept dry, clean, well ventilated, and free from drafts.—Weekly News Notes.

A PLEASED WOMAN

Ferguson, Okla., Aug. 26, 1915.

Editor, The Negro Farmer,
Tuskegee, Ala.

Dear Editor:

I would not be without The Negro Farmer in my house for twice the price of the paper. I have been a subscriber to it since its birth. My husband and I watch for its arrival semi-monthly, and we soon look up the Editorial page.

Find enclosed money order for $1.00 for my renewal subscription.

Yours truly,
Mary A. Winlock.

QUOTED IN JAMAICA

A DEBT OF GRATITUDE

We are indebted to the "Negro Farmer"—a breezy educative little paper of Tuskegee Institute—for much of the information now imparted in the "Jamaican Penny Weekly."—Jamaican Penny Weekly.

WANTED

The following concerns to communicate to us with a view to mutual business advantages.

Williams Mill Manufacturing Co.
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The Baltimore Co.
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Negro Farmer please copy.—Jamaican Penny Weekly.

MILKMAN, OBSERVE THIS WELL

1. The cow is a living machine.
2. Kind treatment entails less labor and gives better results.
3. Good work improves the living machine.
4. Milk clean, (that is, to the last drop.)
5. Clean milking develops the udders and with this increases the quantity of milk and you must remember that the last milk drawn is the most valuable and richest.
6. You should wear clean clothes while milking.
7. Have the milk pails clean as well as the shipping cans.
8. Thoroughly clean the udders.
9. Carry out the work properly.
10. Milk with dry hands.
11. Seize the teats with whole hands, milk as fast as you can, and do not cease until the last drop is milked.
12. Remember the value of the last drop.
13. Milk always at the same time and milk the same cows in the same order.
14. Regard this excellent work as one of Nature, and,

MILKMAN, OBSERVE THIS WELL

Clean the cows well and do not forget the great value of plenty of light in your barn or milk room.

Always take the calves away from the dairy cows.

Always milk in a sanitary hood covered pail.—Modern Farming.

RAPE FOR FALL PIGS

Rape (Brassica napus, Cruciferae) is closely related to the mustard, cabbage, collard, cauliflower, kale and turnip. In shape and color of leaf, it resembles the rutabaga or Swedish turnip. The leaves grow very rank and succulent, and being sweet and tender, they are quite palatable.

We have found it to grow decidedly better in cool weather, and find that it does better during the late fall and early spring months. It has endured cold weather well when not grazed while frozen. It was of little value as a summer crop as it grew so slowly and became tough and unpalatable. Under the best conditions it attained a height of twenty-four inches and yielded as much as ten tons of forage per acre. Having a large leaf area it required a large amount of water for its best growth and did the best only when the rainfall was abundant.

Varieties—The Dwarf Essex is the only variety we have grown, the others being valuable for oil rather than for forage. This variety is a hardy biennial.

Soil and Its Preparation.—Rather fertile soils containing a good supply of vegetable matter and nitrogen, and a good moisture holding capacity, are required for the best development of the rape plant. We have found that new land, or old land where sod or a green manuring crop has been turned under, produces the best growth. In preparing the seed bed, thorough harrowing to fine the soil followed the plowing, but when planting it between the rows of intertilled crops, no extra preparation was made. Barnyard manure we have found to be about the best fertilizing material for the crop, and its use proved to be imperative on thin poor soils. Where this is not available, one could use 200 to 400 pounds of comercial fertilizer containing about 10 per cent of phosphoric acid, 5 per cent of potash, and 4 or 5 per cent of nitrogen.

Seeding.—We have usually sowed the seed broadcast at the rate of 5 pounds per acre, but others often sow in drills 18 to 30 inches apart using three to four pounds of seed, and this method would be preferable on thin soils. Drilling proved to be better than broadcasting as it placed the seed at a uniform depth and they germinated promptly.

Under Georgia conditions we have found it best to sow rape in the early fall; when planted in the spring, warm weather came on so rapidly that its growth was checked, much less forage was obtained and the plants became woody and less palatable. The best results were obtained by planting between September 1st and October 15th, at a time when the moisture conditions were good. In rotations, rape worked in well after cowpeas, and thrived well then as it is a gross feeder of nitrogen and utilized well what the cowpeas placed in the soil.

Value of the Crop—We have fully demonstrated the value of this crop for swine; it is valuable also for sheep and for chickens. For winter pasture, we always have several lots planted to rape and from them we derive large amounts of feed—nutritious green feed at a time when other green feeds are scarce. It required little attention after planting and was very cheaply grown, the expense being only $5.00 to $8.00 for seed, planting, care, fertilizer and rent of land while the crop when used for hog grazing was worth $20.00 to $25.00 per acre, which left a neat profit on the investment. This high feeding value of the rape is due largely to its high protein content and to its succulence. Dry rape leaves, according to chemical analysis contain over 23 per cent protein, as compared with 15 per cent in alfalfa and 16.5 per cent in cowpeas. The rape plant is low in crude fiber, which fact partly accounts for its high feeding value.

Rape for Fall Pigs—At this station, we have been enabled to very successfully raise fall pigs by allowing the brood sows rape pasture in addition to a one-third or one-quarter ration of a mixture of two-thirds corn meal and one-third shorts made into a slop with skim milk. The sows not only did well on this themselves, but the growth of the pigs was excellent and they averaged from 25 to 33 and one-third per cent larger than they did when they were fed in a dry lot. The loss of pigs was greatly reduced by the use of this pasture, for where the loss without the pasture was generally 20 to 25 per cent, with the pasture over 94 per cent of the pigs farrowed were raised to weaning age.

The ration given above was found to be a good one for balancing up the rape pasture and it is necessary that some concentrates should always be fed to swine when on rape pasture. For fattening hogs, the proportion of corn meal was increased and larger amounts fed. On fall planted rape we grazed from fourteen to twenty-one hogs on an acre from October 28th to April 7th.

Precautions in Grazing—Rape should not be grazed when wet or frozen—we have found that this usually damages its growth and also that over-stocking or too continuous grazing would injure the plants and prevent them from making further growth. We allow it to reach ten to twelve inches in height before turning hogs onto it, and when it is not overgrazed it continues to produce. Sometimes by resting the pasture the crop may be grazed off at intervals for two or three times; we have found it an excellent plan to have several small lots in this crop that can be grazed in rotation, each being allowed periods in which to recover and make further growth. —Circular 73, Georgia Exp. Station.

UNUSUAL SPREAD OF THE BOLL WEEVIL

Washington, D. C., Oct. 9.—Under normal conditions the boll weevil advances into new territory at the rate of about 50 miles each year, but during a peroid of only two weeks during the present season there was an advance of about 100 miles. This movement carried the insect into Georgia for the first time, and 25 counties in that State became infested. Several counties in Florida have been infested for several years but eight additional ones became infested by the same movement. Twenty additional counties in Alabama were also invaded. All of this spread took place between the 15th and 31st of August.

There were several conditions according to the entomologists of the United States Department of Agriculture, which contributed to this unusual dispersion. One of them was the drought in Alabama and Mississippi, which caused the plants to cease fruiting and deprived the weevils of the squares upon which they prefer to feed. The more important condition however, was a series of very high winds which began on August 15 and blew continuously for several days toward the northeast. The weevils were thus carried much farther than they would have gone by natural flight or even by the aid of ordinary winds.

The Department has placed all available forces at work to assist the farmers in the territory that has just become infested. Most of the cotton is now open and this will allow an unusually early picking so that the fall broods of the weevil can be destroyed by uprooting and burying the plants or burning them where necessary. The Department strongly urges the burying of the plants wherever this can be done promptly, as the humus thereby placed in the soil is of very great importance. The State agencies are cooperating with the agents of the Department, and a very active effort will be made to reduce the number of weevils to the extent that will allow an approximately normal crop to be produced next season.

Another feature of the boll-weevil problem which is attracting considerable attention is the damage that is being done in Texas this season. There is a more or less general impression in the eastern part of the cotton belt that the boll weevil has died out in the State of Texas, but the investigations of the Department show that the abundance of the insect in that region depends on climatic conditions. During the present season these conditions have been extremely favorable with the result that the insect has been as abundant as at any time since it invaded the State. The lesson to be drawn from this fact is that the planters in the eastern part of the cotton belt must make a strenuous fight, and should realize that since the boll weevil has not died out either in Texas or Mexico, it is not at all likely to do so in any other region that may become invaded. They should adjust their systems of farming to boll-weevil conditions without delay.—Office of Information, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

THE CACKLE OF A HEN

Listen for the cackle of your hen. It has a money value to you.

The winter season is approaching, when the price of eggs will advance and the cackle will become of even a greater significance to you.

Plan for the cackle, feed the hens in accordance with the demands of nature as propounded by the experts who have spent their life in the work.

If the cackle is not heard with sufficient frequency ask yourself why. Dig down and study the subject for the more you study the oftener the hen will cackle, and cackling means more eggs and a bigger bank account.

It is the law of nature that a hen should lay, and cackle. She should lay often and do much cackling, for that, too, is nature's law.

But she will not lay unless she receives proper food and care, and therein lies the wisdom of the man who thinks before he acts.

Get hold of some good literature, read up on the subject of egg production, apply the knowledge you thus obtain, and in the end you will learn to experience a keen delight in every cackle of your hens.

Your hen wants to cackle—she WILL cackle, if you give her a chance.

And there's money in the cackle of a hen.—Col. Ag. Col.

THE TICK PRIMER

Is this a tick?
It is a tick.
But it won't be a tick long.
Soon it will be a thousand ticks.
What does it eat?
Blood.
Where does it get blood?
From your cows, steers, calves.
What do the thousand ticks eat?
Blood—and from the same source.
Where does the blood come from?
From the grass, silage, corn, cottonseed meal, and other feed your cattle eat.
Oh—then the tick eats my feed?
Yes; but he first makes your cattle do all the work of turning feed into blood.
But what is cattle blood worth?
So much a pound when it goes into beef—so much a quart when it goes to make milk.
How much blood do ticks eat?
Where they are thick they eat 200 pounds of blood a year from a 1,000-pound steer.
How much milk do they take out in blood?
A few on a cow reduce the milk yield one and a half quarts a day—lots of them will cut the milk down over 3 quarts.
Then the ticks are drawing on my bank account?
They are certainly keeping your balance in the veal stage.
And my neighbors'?
The tick is sucking $50,000,000 a year from the South.
What is the answer?
You and the farmers, business men, bankers, and the people of the county must get together and build dipping vats and dip all cattle in an arsenical bath, which kills the ticks.
Cost of dipping?
20 cents to 50 cents a head.
Profit from dipping?
$5 to $10 a head on beef cattle—$20 to $50 a year on a dairy cow.
Dip that tick.

THE PLAY OF THE FARM WIFE

In the last twenty or thirty years, the development of the farm has changed so that high priced machinery is a necessity in making the farming operations a success.

Not so have the internal home conditions changed. The same house, the same inconveniences that were in use fifty or more years ago, are in many cases, in use today, and because they were good enough for mother or grandmother, they are "good enough for my wife today." How little does the average farmer realize that the ultimate success of his farm depends upon his wife, upon the conveniences she has which will lessen her work, and give her more time to make the home attractive, and keep the children contented and happy on the farm. A wife is a necessity on a farm, but unless she is spared much of the hard drudgery and unnecessary labor, she will soon give out.

Dr. Curtis says in speaking of the "Farm Wife:" "The work she does today she will do to-morrow and so on to the end. There is no direct reward for her work. If the work is uninteresting the hours must be proportionately short. for the life of the spirit, the only life that is worth living, must come outside the work."—Edwin M. Layman, Colorado Agricultural College, Fort Collins, Colorado.

FARMERS' DICTIONARY

The "Big Words" and Events Expained

VALUE OF WINTER CROPS

1. **For Rotation.**—All the benefits usually accruing from the rotation of crops may be assigned to the growth of winter crops:—the balancing of the various plant foods in the soil since one crop uses these in different amounts from others; the destruction of the toxins left by one crop, by a crop of a different kind; the transfer of plant food from deep layers of soil to near the surface by more deeply rooted crops; the better control of diseases and insect pests: the maintenance of humus in the soil and the improvement of physical conditions and so on.

2. **To Prevent Leaching.** — Winter crops take up part or all of the available plant food left in the soil after the maturity of the summer crop or that may be made available during the winter months and prevent the loss of much valuable fertilizing material in this way.

3. **To Prevent Washing.**—One of the greatest objections to our soils is that they wash easily and become gullied when nature's protecting coat of timber is taken away and this is especially true when there is no growing crop on the land.

4. **For Winter Pasture.**—With our open winters, the housing of live stock is imperative on but a few days. If pasturage is provided, there is less need of stored feed for the stock and these usually "winter" better when they have some green feed. The value of winter pasture depends on several factors, some of which have not been sufficiently emphasized in agricultural bulletins and in the farm papers. It is only on sod land that permanent winter pasture is possible, as with burr clover or rye grasses on Bermuda sod; on tilled fields, pasturing can be allowed only when so dry that the tramping of the animals will not injure the soil. Furthermore, much of the so-called winter pasture is spring pasture since the winter crops and especially when late planted make but little growth before March 1. Besides time of planting, the conditions of the soil in regard to available plant food and the amount of moisture greatly influence the amount of fall growth; if the soil has been depleted of moisture and available plant food by a late growing crop—no fall growth of value ought to be expected unless both man and nature do something to remedy this condition.

On the Station farm, oats following corn which was put into the silo in July, made an excellent fall growth and winter pasture while those following corn slip-shucked in September—as well as those planted late under good conditions—afforded practically no winter pasture at all.

5. **For Green Manure.**—What has been said in regard to winter pasture applies also if the crops are wanted for green manure and are to be turned under early in the spring—unless there is a good fall growth one would have to delay plowing until April to secure the desired growth for turning under.

6. **As Nitrogen Gatherers.**—The winter legumes, of course, are the only crops that can be of benefit in this particular. Just as cowpeas, peanuts and velvet beans improve our soils in the warm season, so will the clovers or vetches do during the cold season and advantage should be taken to have as large an area as possible covered in winter to obtain this benefit while the land would otherwise be idle. The legumes do all that a grain crop can do as given in the preceding discussion and in addition draw from the air from 30 to 150 pounds of nitrogen, worth about 20 cents a pound, for fertilizing purposes.

7. **To Furnish Hay.**—Winter crops may be cut when in late bloom or in the soft dough stage and cured as hay—furnishing much valuable feed for the stock and leaving their roots to help build up the soil. Of course, some fertility is removed when this is done and the soil is not improved as much as when the crop is used for green manure.

8. **To Furnish Grain for Man and Beast.**—Bul. 117, Ga. Exp. Sta.

YOU MUST LOVE YOUR WORK

No man makes the greatest success unless he loves the work in which he is engaged. If one is forced to do distasteful work he must change his attitude.

WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT

PRACTICAL LUNCHEONS

The following list of foods, and the menus planned from it, will assist the mothers in planning a well balanced lunch for home or school:

Nitrogenous Foods — Milk, eggs, meat, fish, poultry, cheese, beans, wheat, bread, gelatine.

Fats — Butter, olive oil, fat of meat, cream, peanut butter, nuts.

Starches and Sugars — Potatoes and starchy vegetables, all kinds of sugar, sweet chocolate, rice, oatmeal, macaroni, fruits, corn starch, molasses, maple syrup, tapioca, honey.

Monday—Minced chicken sandwiches, milk, white cookies, orange with sugar.

Tuesday—Whole wheat bread, roast beef sliced, cake of sweet chocolate, banana.

Wednesday — Peanut butter sandwiches, milk, tapioca pudding with fruit.

Thursday — Brown bread with cheese-and-nut filling, chocolate pudding moulded, milk.

Friday—Egg sandwiches, milk, hermits, gelatine moulded with fruit and nuts.

When the child stays for an afternoon session without coming home at noon, a larger amount of food should be given.—Harper's Bazar.

NAMES FOR PRESERVED FOODS

Now that the housewife is labeling preserves and jams, it may be of interest to her to know what is the basis for the distinction to be made in the use of the terms preserve, conserve, marmalade, jam, butter and relish.

Preserves include the fancy grade of fruits preserved in a heavy syrup and with little cooking of the fruit, so that the natural form. flavor and color are retained, in so far as is possible.

Conserves are preserves consisting of a mixture of fruits.

The marmalade is much the same as a preserve, though not quite so sweet. The larger fruit is most used with the seeds removed and all or a part of the skin. The fruit is in sections.

Jams may be made from less perfect fruits than preserves, and the finished article is smooth, darker in color and thickened through longer cooking. Jams are less sweet than marmalades. Small fruit is used.

Fruit butter is more nearly like jam than either of the groups named. It is prepared from the divided or crushed fruit; it is free from seeds and skins. Little sugar is used. The product is made very smooth and thick through long cooking.

Relishes differ from pickles in that the mixture of vegetables is macerated and cooked until smooth. Catsup and chili sauce furnish two good illustrations.—Inga M. K. Allison, Colorado Agricultural College, Fort Collins, Colorado.

DO YOUR HENS LAY?

If not, Use Sour Milk, Beef Scrap, or Green Cut Bone and Gather More Eggs

"Milk or meat in the ration may make all the difference between profit and loss," declares H. L. Kempster, professor of Poultry Husbandry of the Missouri College of Agriculture. "We know from our tests at the Experiment Station and from the experience of poultrymen everywhere. We got only 945 eggs from a pen of hens that ate no animal food, while another pen of hens, no better in any way, but fed sour milk, laid 1783. Those fed beef scrap laid 1802 eggs. While this is a higher record than either of the others, the sour milk is so much cheaper and easeir to get on most farms that we recommend it most highly. At 20 cents a dozen, the eggs from the hens fed sour milk brought $29.71 and those from the hens fed beef scrap, $30.03. The difference would'nt begin to pay for the extra cost and trouble of beef scrap. The big thing to remember is that the hens fed no animal food brought little more than half as much egg money. Theory and experience both say, "Feed the laying hen sour milk as part of her ration."

Here is a good sour milk ration:

Corn, 4 parts.
Wheat, 2 parts.
Bran middlings, 1 part.
Corn meal, 1 part.
Sour milk separately.

Give 100 hens 2 and a half gallons of milk and from 19 to 25 pounds of other food a day. —University of Missouri Press Bulletin 117.

PORK PRODUCTION

Very interesting data concerning the cost of wintering brood sows and the cost of growing and fattening pigs are given in Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin 147, which is report of the North Platte Substation.

By using a large amount of alfalfa hay with a limited amount of grain the net cost of wintering old brood sows is kept at the low figure of $1.25 each without allowing the sow to become too thin for the best results in raising litters. On a ration containing from one-fourth to one-third alfalfa hay, young brood sows are carried from the pasture fields to the farrowing pens at a small profit and in suitable condition for farrowing and raising fair litters.

The average number of pigs per litter raised from old sows during a period of four years was 6.55, at a cost of $2.11 per pig weighing 50 pounds. The average number of pigs raised by young brood sows during a like period was 6.2, at a cost of $1.68 per pig weighing 50 pounds. The fall pig was grown to the weight of 50 pounds as cheaply as the spring pig.

When grazing on alfalfa pasture pigs receiving 2.5 pounds of grain per 100 pounds of their weight daily have gained 0.75 pound each per day. The rate of gain on alfalfa pasture bore a close relation to the amount of grain fed.

The most suitable supplementary feed to corn for fattening hogs seems to depend on several variable factors. Oil meal, cold pressed cottonseed cake, and tankage rank close together in the profits secured in nearly all tests. In some tests these by-products give faster gains and more profit than corn and alfalfa, and in other tests the reverse is true. The physical condition of the hogs as influenced by weather and other factors seems to determine whether alfalfa hay or such a by-product as those just mentioned is the most profitable to feed with corn for fattening hogs.

Ground wheat either soaked or moistened gives faster gains with less grain for 100 pounds of gain than corn, but corn gave faster gains with less grain for 100 pounds of gain than whole wheat either soaked or dry. Soaking wheat increased its feeding value only slightly, but grinding the wheat increased its feeding value about one-fifth.

For growing pigs on alfalfa pasture and fattening them when having access to alfalfa hay, a grain ration of corn proved more efficient than a grain ration of two parts corn and one part shorts.

Experiments in cooking alfalfa hay for hogs indicate that the feeding value of the alfalfa may have been increased slightly by the cooking, but not sufficiently to offset the extra cost.

The summary indicates among other items that with corn valued at 60 cents per bushel the cost of feed alone for producing a pound of pork is about 5 cents.

This bulletin is printed in two editions. The brief, popular edition will be sent to the regular mailing list. The more complete edition will be sent only on request. Either edition may be had free of cost by residents of Nebraska upon application to the Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station, Lincoln, E. A. Burnett, Director.

NEIGHBORLINESS

The people of country places, much more than city folks, are dependent upon one another. The city man may, and very often does find his business and social associates in a part of the city remote from his place of residence; but the man who lives in the rural locality is almost wholly dependent in both business and social matters upon those who might properly be called his neighbors. It would seem, therefore, that such people ought to be on the best of terms. As a matter of fact, they are not always. They know each other too well. In a small community everybody knows everybody else, and a large topic of conversation is the faults and failings of the absent neighbors. In reality they do not know each other as well as they think they do; their acquaintance is superficial because it is the result of association and not friendliness. Some people make themselves and others miserable because they insist on putting the worst possible interpretation upon the words and acts of their neighbors, when as a matter of fact the chief fault lies in themselves. People should try to interpret the conduct of those about them sympathetically, and when possible attribute good motives to them. People in rural communities would find life much more enjoyable if they cultivated a spirit of friendly helpfulness. There are such communities, and it is a pleasure to live in them. What are you doing to cultivate such a spirit in your neighborhood? Folks can't be hateful and happy too.—Herbert C. Long, Colorado Agricultural College, Fort Collins, Colo.

SELECTING COTTON SEED

By Prof. C. W. Edgerton

Each farmer should select his own seed for cotton and see that the seed is saved from prolific, early and healthy plants only. This means that the picking of the cotton that is to be saved for seed must be done by intelligent labor.

In selecting cotton for seed several things must be kept in mind:

1. The cotton must be early. If the planter selects his cotton from the first picking each year he will gradually eliminate the late-maturing cotton.

2. The cotton must be selected from plants free from the wilt or black root disease. As wilted plants mature their cotton earlier than healthy plants special care must be taken in the first picking. Seed from a plant that shows any sign of wilt should not be saved.

3. The cotton seed should come from prolific and well-shaped plants.

4. Seed should not be saved from bolls that show any sign of rot. It is not believed that it is possible to entirely eliminate boll rot by seed selection, but it can be reduced.

The method of seed selection should be about as follows: When the cotton is ready for the first picking, a man able to recognize the cotton wilt and other diseases and who can be depended upon to pick the cotton from only early prolific plants, should pick over the field in advance of the rest of the pickers. The cotton that he picks should be ginned separately and the seed saved for planting.—Modern Farming.

THE SMITH-LEVER ACT

Progress of Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics During the First Year

A year has passed since the co-operative agricultural extension act of May 8, 1914, commonly known as the Smith-Lever Extension Act, went into effect. In that period much has been accomplished in creating or perfecting the administrative machinery for carrying on the extension work in agriculture and home economics in the department and the several States. The general lines along which these extensive enterprises will be conducted have also been quite well determined.

All the States have assented to the provisions of the act either through their governors or their legislatures and the action of the governors has been ratified by all the legislatures which have been in regular session during the year. A single agricultural college in each State has been designated as the beneficiary of this act, thus providing for a unified administration of the act within the State. In several States where the college designated is not co-educational, a co-operative arrangement for the work in home economics has been made with the State college for women, and similarly in a few States having separate land-grant colleges for Negroes a co-operative arrangement has been made for extension work among people of that race.—Weekly News Letter.

WINNERS FROM THE SOIL

Colored Heroes of the Farm

N. C. Bruce of Missouri Wins Championship Medal at Panama-Pacific Exposition for Best Corn in Missouri

We clipped the following notes from the Richmond Planet and the Atlanta Independent, respectively:

A NEGRO'S CORN WAS BEST

The white man made a path yesterday to the shabby door of N. C. Bruce a Negro. Bruce, Friday's news dispatches said, had won a championship medal for the best Missouri corn shown at the Panama-Pacific Exposition. Bruce last year raised fifty acres of corn that averaged 114 bushels to the acre. It was this corn that won him the world's fair medal. It also won him the distinction of second place among all corn exhibitors at the Frisco fair. An Illinois man took first prize with a yield of 127 bushels to the acre.

And the reporter for the Star found that growing championship corn was only a by-product of Bruce's efforts. Making Negro boys and girls better, more useful and contented citizens is Bruce's main work and he is doing that on the top of a hill at Dalton, Mo., on a farm that is part farm and part school.

Dalton is a town on the Wabash railway in Charlton County about one hundred miles from Kansas City.

First Among 2,000 Competitors

"Missouri has been paying too much attention to the mule," said Bruce, "and not enough attention to the Negro. They should be linked together. That's what we are trying to do in this place. That corn shows how well that combination is fitted to do that kind of work. It took the $400 1st prize at the University of Missouri last year and there were two thousand Missouri farmers competing for that prize. We're trying to give Negro boys an education that will fit them for country life.

"In the fall of 1913 we turned under fifty-two acres of bottom land that was in alsike clover, plowed it eight or nine inches deep and disked it. About April we plowed it again, disked it and then just before corn planting time we disked it and ran a smoothing harrow over it. It was cultivated six times. People passing by used to say, "How'd that nigger get that corn?" He got it by linking the Missouri Negro and the Missouri Mule.

Bruce is principal of the Barlett Agricultural and Industrial School, an organization supported entirely by private subscriptions of white people and by the efforts of the students. There are 108 pupils in the school from 14 years up. All are taught reading, writing, mathematics, physics, history, grammar, chemistry and kindred studies.

Trying to better the Negro

We're not educating our boys to be teachers or Pullman porters or things like that," Bruce said. We're giving them real work and there is nothing like work on a farm to make a chesty and topheavy Negro level headed. They get book learning each morning. But first they get religious training, taught the practical application of religion, to know that each one must keep his word always, must tell the truth and must pay his debts. In the afternoon everybody works. The girls go to the laundry, the kitchen or do sewing. They scrub floors and windows and learn housework thoroughly, and white people who have them in their homes after they leave here have competent, self-respecting girls. The boys do all kinds of farming, carpentry work and all that must be done on a place of 189 acres like this. We have to feed ourselves."

The school is housed partly in two inexpensive and very plain frame bulidings, several small shacks and old cottages. Bruce lives in a shabby little house. Bruce has a master's degree from Bates College, Maine. He was born of former slave parents forty-two years ago and came to Missouri from North Carolina in 1902.—(Kansas City Star.)

THE BRUCES OF MISSOURI

St. Louis, Sept. 28.—"N. C. Bruce, of Dalton, Mo.," is proclaimed by the Panama-Pacific Exposition to be the champion corn grower of the United States, if not of the world. He has received this award on the record that he raised 118 bushels on a single acre. Isn't this "N. C. Bruce of the Bartlett Farm and School for Negroes," at Dal-

ton, who took the "sweepstakes premium for the highest yield of corn on one acre" in 1913? That premium was awarded by the University of Missouri. It was on one acre of 108 bushels in a field of sixty acres. The entire sixty acres cultivated by the Negro students at the Bartlett school yielded from sixty-five to seventy-five bushels of corn to the acre. The Bartlett school is in Charlton County, one of the ten Missouri counties which in 1860 contained nine-tenths of the 120,000 Missouri slaves. The school is largely a living monument to Samuel Cupples, the all-around St. Louis philanthropist, and Prof. Calvin M. Woodward, father of manual training.

Two years ago, when this Negro training school carried off the sweepstakes on Missouri corn production, Commissioner Fitzptrick of the State Bureau of Labor Statistics made an investigation. He found there were 3,800 Missouri farms, owned by Negroes. He estimated the value of these farms at $27,768,000. He reported that the Negro farmers of Missouri raised wheat, corn, oats and other grains; sold milk, butter, eggs and all kinds of fruit on their tables, and, he added, nearly every one of these Negroes had a bank account.

When Lewis Vital Bogy went to the United States Senate from Missouri by the grace of the Democratic party, he found there a Negro representing another State. He learned that this Negro was college bred. He saw that this black senator was treated with respect by senators of both parties. One day he had occasion to consult the Negro about pending legislation. The Negro senator said to the Missourian: "You don't remember me, Senator Bogy?"

"No, I don't recall having met you before I came to Washington."

"Well, senator, in 1859 or 1860 you were hurrying down the Levee at St. Louis to catch a boat just about leaving the wharf. You had a heavy valise. As you passed me you held out the valise and said, 'Here, boy, take this!' I carried the valise. You caught the boat and handed me two bits.'"

Senator Bogy came back to Missouri and told this of United States Senator K. Bruce. Regardless of race, color or previous condition of servitude, the Bruces of Missouri are doing right well. —W. B. S., in St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Good for Mr. Bruce. Good for our race. Our redemption is going to come through the efforts of men like Mr. Bruce who lay hold on a given task and do it better than anyone else. It will take several bitter speeches in Congress against the Negro to explain why a Colored man produced the greatest yield of corn in Missouri during 1913, and led his State at the great exposition. That's the way to do it! Put the ball across the plate, knock a home run, don't muff the ball when it's your turn. This will prove that there is no color in brains nor efforts.

As told in the National Negro Business League by Mr. J. E. Thompson Clearview, Oklahoma

Mr. J. E. Thompson, Clearview, Oklahoma: The first time I began farming for myself was when I was thirteen years old; I asked mother if I went and made an arrangement for a small piece of land to work, whether she would consent to let me work it on my own responsibility; I had a brother who was older than I was, but at that time he didn't have enough work for anybody but himself and family. My mother seemed to doubt my ability to run a place on my own hook, and she said to me: "My son, you are too small; you can't manage a farm by yourself." But I reasoned with her, and she said if I could get anybody to let me have a small tract of land, she would let me try the experiment. So I went to an old white gentleman, who had considerable property, much of which was not in use, and I asked him the privilege of working a piece of land on shares.

Dr. Booker T. Washington: And you say that was when you were only thirteen years of age?

Mr. J. E. Thompson, Clearview, Oklahoma: Yes, Sir, that was when I was thirteen years old. (Applause.) At first this white gentleman doubted my ability to run a farm on my own hook, but I told him I was qualified, I was of good size for my age, had been raised on a farm all my life, and I told him if he would only give me a chance I would make good—and I did. The old gentleman walked off a little piece and finally came back; then he said to me: "Are you honest? Will you work?" I assured him that I was honest and not afraid of work, and he said: "Boy, I'm going to give you a chance." And I want to say right here that I have always found it to be true that the white folks are willing to help us and give us a chance if we are honest and willing to work. (Hearty applause.) * * * At the present time I have over nine hundred (900) acres down in cotton, and the cotton is good. (Prolonged applause.) I have plenty of hogs, I raise mules and horses and other live stock; I carry enough cattle to supply the wants of the farm and a little more. I raise plenty of corn and stock feed. I don't remember when I have not killed enough meat to do my family for five years, and sometimes enough to do it for ten years. (Hearty applause.) I raise far more meat than we can consume; of course, I sell some of this meat; I sell it green. On my farms I have a number of houses which are rented out to tenants. I see some of my tenants here in this audience and they can tell you if what I am saying is true; some of them are working for me on shares, but I tell them "If you work for me for five years on shares, you are foolish." (Applause.) I tell them they ought to own and operate a place of their own, that they ought to be able to get on their feet financially in a few years' time, strike out on their own hook, get a place of their own, and make way on my farm for others of our race who I'm trying to get to do likewise. (Hearty applause.) When any of my tenants leave me and go on a place of their own and quit working for me on shares, I feel as if they have done me a favor. (Laughter and applause.) In this way I'm trying to encourage many of my tenants and others of my race to buy a farm. (Hearty applause.) * * *

Dr. Booker T. Washington: Do you live, or is your farm situated very far from a railroad?

Mr. J. E. Thompson, Clearview, Oklahoma: You will see my farm when you pass through Clearview on Saturday on your way to Boley. Come out and see me, I'll be glad to have you all stop over and see my place, and in this way you can also find out whether I have stated to you anything what is not true.

Dr. Booker T. Washington: What else do you do besides farming?

Mr. J. E. Thompson, Clearview, Oklahoma: I'm in the real estate business and also conduct a general merchandise store. In Clearview if there's anybody who wants to buy any land or lots around that section, they see me. (Laughter and applause.)

Squabs are ready for market usually from three and a half to four and a half weeks of age, and up to this time they are fed by the parent birds. They must be sent to market promptly, as the period during which they are in best condition rarely exceeds one week.

Squabs are in good market condition when fully feathered under the wings, which is usually about the time they begin to leave the nest. If they are not killed at this time, they soon lose their baby fat and their flesh begins to harden.

DRY SEED CORN NOW

Freezing With This Moisture in the Kernel Endangers Next Year's Crop

"Drying seed corn is even more important than selection this fall," says J. C. Hackleman of the Missouri College of Agriculture. If frozen with as much moisture as it seems likely to contain when the first freezing comes it may be almost worthless as seed next spring. To avoid danger from early frost, select the most mature ears in the field and dry thoroughly at once. If a neighbor's corn of seed variety ripens earlier arrange to pick in his field. Seed grown in the locality in which it is to be planted is always to be chosen in preference to that shipped in from a distance.

Air-drying in the sunshine is slower but safer unless fire-drying is absolutely necessary to secure safety from freezing. Well-dried corn will stand any freeze it is likely to get in Missouri but the danger from too rapid fire-drying is only less than that from freezing.

The corn is not safe for storage or exposure to cold weather quite as soon as the appearance of the kernels might indicate because there is so much more moisture in the cob and the cob is so much slower in drying than the kernels. Be sure not to store while there is still moisture enough in the cob to cause heat or molding.

Each ear should be so placed in wire or slat racks, or so hung that no two ears will hang together so as to hold moisture and cause molding. The storage place should be airy and well ventilated. It should not be closed until drying is completed, unless cold weather necessitates closing. A little fire may be used to hasten drying.

Drying Pointers

Dry in sunshine and fresh air.
Dry before danger of freezing.
Use fire very carefully, if at all.
Dry the cob thoroughly as well as the kernel.
To avoid heating or molding, let no ear touch the next ear.—University of Missouri Press Bulletin 119.

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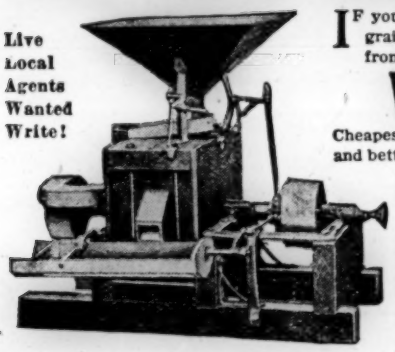

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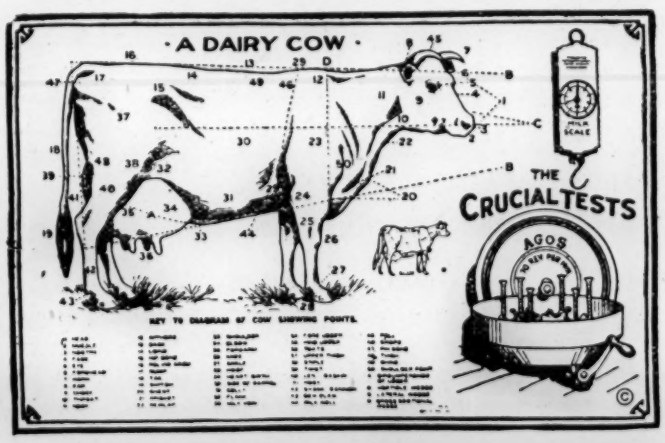

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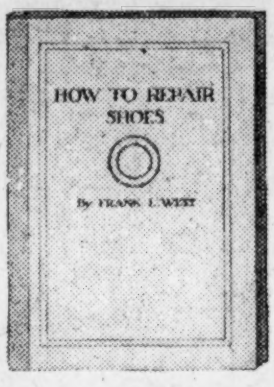

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